$Happy \pi Day!$

MIT's **Oldest and Largest** Newspaper



The Weather

Today: Showers, cloudy, 56°F (13°C) Tonight: Broken clouds, brisk, 46°F (8°C) Tomorrow: Partly cloudy, 47°F (8°C) Details, Page 2

Volume 126, Number 11 Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139 Tuesday, March 14, 2006

Finboard Appeals Give **Student Groups More Funding for Spring '06**

To the delight of 76 student organizations, the Undergraduate Association Finance Board allocated an additional \$56,831 after review of the Independent Activities Period/Spring 2006 Appeals, which totaled \$179,000. The three highest recipients this semester were Technique, with \$5,575, the Association of Taiwanese Students, with \$2,405, and the Laboratory for Chocolate Science, with \$1,975.

The unusually large surplus, just \$12,000 short of the original amount distributed in this semester's Allocations and up nearly \$15,000 from last year's IAP/Spring Appeals, can be attributed to a large rollover from the fall. When student groups do not use all of their allocations, the re-

Welch to Teach **Sloan Course**

Former General Electric CEO Jack Welch will teach a course at the Sloan School

News Brief

of Management next fall, according to an MIT Sloan press release. The course, which will be entitled "Conversations with Jack Welch," will be taught with stories and real-life anecdotes, Welch said in the press release.

According to the press release, Welch said that he has not been interested in teaching at business schools before because MBA candidates often want to become consultants or investment bankers. When he came to Sloan last fall on a tour for his book "Winning," he said that he "found a very enthusiastic dean and students who were engaged and energized by many of the same issues about which I care."

He plans to make the course as interactive as possible, and cording to the press release hopes it "will get more MBAs interested in leading an organization and the fun around it and the differences you can make. A leader has an enormous amount of opportunity to do a lot for a lot of people.'

Welch, who lives on Beacon Hill in Boston, has never taught a formal course before and said in the press release that "I'm not thinking about taking up teaching as a career, but I like MIT Sloan and the thinking that is going on there a lot."

—Marie Thibault

City Police Could Track Kegs By Benjamin P. Gleitzman time. keg regulations do not impact fra-

The Cambridge Licensing Committee will vote later this month to adopt regulations on keg purchases similar to those recently implemented in Boston. The regulations would be based on the Boston Licensing Board's new laws, implemented last October, requiring liquor stores and breweries to report personal information such as name, address, and date of birth of keg-buyers to the Boston police department.

Breaking from Boston policy, which defines kegs as any container bigger than six gallons, the new Cambridge policy will target "anything with a tap, regardless of size," said CLC Executive Director Elizabeth Lint.

'Of the 40 or so package stores in Cambridge, only five or six sell kegs," said Daniel Trujillo, associate dean for Community Development and Substance Abuse Programs. "The predominant concern is people coming to Cambridge in order to avoid the mandate," he said, referring to the Boston law. The proposed regulations in Cambridge could quash this practice.

'The impetus is obvious," said Lint. "Boston recently passed these regulations and other cities are adopting similar laws."

Concerns were raised at the last CLC meeting about reporting information to Harvard and MIT police in addition to the Cambridge police department. "The logistics could be difficult," said Lint, and the CLC has no intention of including such a clause in the regulation at this

If implemented, the new regulations should not affect MIT fraternities or independent living groups in Cambridge. "The current IFC Risk Management Policy strictly prohibits fraternities from having kegs," said IFC President Isaac J. Tetzloff '07. "The CLC and BLB ternities since kegs are forbidden."

Living groups are also not likely to feel an effect as current MIT regulations restrict the purchase of kegs unless the party is run by a third party vendor, said Trujillo.

The CLC is scheduled to vote on the issue at the March 23 meeting.



Those who purchase kegs in Cambridge could soon be required to register with the police in a program similar to one adopted in Boston last fall.

President & dates Discuss Platforms

By Gabriel Fouasnon, **Curt Fischer and Jenny Zhang**

be used for the following term. Cal-

culated after the termination of the

previous semester, the rollover is

not available in time for the alloca-

plication including a detailed list

of cost estimations, "it is very rare

that a group will spend 100% of

what they are allocated," Finboard

chairman Christina C. Royce '06

wrote in an e-mail. "We do our best

to fund where we feel the money

will actually be used. It's up to the

group, once we've given them their

allocation, how much they choose

to use, and unfortunately not all

groups take maximum use of the

peals funding, representatives from

each student group must meet with

the board to defend their applications. Student groups are therefore

encouraged to request money for

capital (long-term) expenditures

rather than for operations or events.

Approximately \$22,000 of the mon-

ey awarded in Appeals this semester

are slotted for capital expenditures,

nearly three times as much as the

\$8,000 granted during the alloca-

elected members, who each review

Finboard is comprised of ten

In order to be considered for Ap-

money.

tions period.

every application.

Despite a comprehensive ap-

tions round of funding.

Yesterday, The Tech interviewed

the Undergraduate Association President and Vice President Tickets, consisting of Andrew T. Lukmann

'07 and Ruth F. Miller '07, Jessica H. Lowell '07 and Steven M. Kelch '08, and Dwight M. Chambers '07 and Victor C. Cabral '07. Online voting ends today, and ballot voting will be available in Lobby 10 tomorLukmann and Miller

"MIT cable is our main issue," Miller said. If elected, Lukmann said he would push MIT's Information Services & Technology department to pressure Comcast into providing more options.

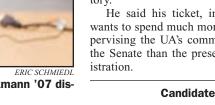
Lukmann articulated several key differences between his ticket and his opponents'. He and Miller had "more combined experience" than the opposition tickets, he noted.

Lukmann specifically challenged Chambers' experience, saying that Chambers had "only been a Senator for half a term." He also characterized Chambers as a "one-issue guy," referring to Chambers' plan to address ROTC-related discrimination issues

Lukmann has worked with Lowell extensively in his duties as UA Senate Speaker, and calls her a friend. He encouraged her to run as vice-president last year, he said, beeause he "thought she was going to do a pretty good job."

But he added that he has been "disappointed" with her term as vice-president. He said he thought this year's UA lacked proper managerial oversight, and criticized Lowell's use of the UA vice presidency, saying that she focused on issues relevant only to her and her dormi-

He said his ticket, in contrast, wants to spend much more time supervising the UA's committees and the Senate than the present administration.





Undergraduate Association Senate Speaker and candidate for UA President Andrew T. Lukmann '07 discusses why he and Ruth Miller '07 make a great UA P/VP team.

Candidates, Page 12



Comics

Harvey Jones and John R. Velasco discuss the importance of housing choices.

News

Colleges and universities open scholarships for minorities up to other students.

Opinion 4 Campus Life 6

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Page 2 THE TECH March 12, 2006

World & Nation

Britain to Reduce Troop Strength in Iraq

By Alan Cowell

THE NEW YORK TIMES

LONDON

Britain said Monday that it would reduce its troop strength in Iraq by about 10 percent beginning in May, bringing the level down close to 7,000, the lowest since the war began in 2003.

John Reid, the defense secretary, said the decision reflected the increasing preparedness of Iraqi forces to assume security responsibilities. Speaking to Parliament, he denied that British military planners feared being overstretched by a planned major deployment in Afghanistan in addition to the British presence in southern Iraq.

"There is no connection with Afghanistan," he said.

In early 2003, Britain contributed about 46,000 troops to the American-led invasion of Iraq. By May 2004, the number of British troops there had fallen to 18,000, and that number has been reduced over time to about 8,000. The latest reduction will be about 800 soldiers.

Reid said in Parliament that the move marked "an indication of the incremental and increasing participation of Iraqi forces in counterterrorism in our operations." But he suggested that the British withdrawal would not mean handing over the command for counterinsurgency duties

Hot Material is Discovered In Icy Comets

By Warren E. Leary

THE NEW YORK TIMES

Samples of a comet brought back by the Stardust spacecraft show that at least some of the icy bodies contain a surprising amount of material formed under high heat, scientists reported Monday.

Initial studies of some of the cometary particles returned by Stardust found materials believed formed near the sun in the early history of the solar system and somehow ejected into the cold, distant regions where comets form, they said.

"It's sort of a big surprise to see such hot materials so far out in the solar system," Thomas Morgan, NASA program scientist for the mission, said in a televised news conference from the Johnson Space Center in Houston.

The first results from the \$212 million Stardust project are being presented this week at the National Aeronautics and Space Adminstration's annual Lunar and Planetary Science Conference in nearby League City, Texas.

Carnage Continues In Baghdad As Four Bodies Are Found In Shiite

By Edward Wong and Robert F. Worth

THE NEW YORK TIMES

BAGHDAD, IRAQ

The bodies of four men who had been shot in the head were found Monday in a Shiite area of eastern Baghdad, near a note scrawled on a piece of cloth that read: "Those are the traitors."

The corpses were discovered in Sadr City, where at least 46 people had been killed in six car bombs on Sunday, threatening to unleash a wave of sectarian violence similar to the one that followed the bombing of a Shiite shrine last month.

The corpses were found as other spots of violence flared in the capital. An Interior Ministry spokesman said two bombs exploded in Baghdad on Monday, killing one person and wounding 15. A roadside bomb exploded in eastern Baghdad, killing an American soldier, the American military said.

Elsewhere in the city, the trial of Saddam Hussein continued on Monday, and for the second day heard testimony from defendants. Three of Saddam's co-defendants, all former lower-level Baath Party officials, denied any role in the torture and killings of 148 men and boys from the Shiite village of Dujail in the early 1980s.

Judge Postpones Moussaoui Hearing Because of Violation

By Neil A. Lewis
THE NEW YORK TIMES

ALEXANDRIA, VA.

The sentencing trial of Zacarias Moussaoui teetered on the brink of a mistrial Monday, as the judge in the case angrily said she might spare him the death penalty following the disclosure that a government lawyer had improperly coached some wit-

"In all my years on the bench, I've never seen a more egregious violation of the rule about witnesses," Judge Leonie M. Brinkema said.

The judge recessed the trial until Wednesday. She said she would rule then on a request from Moussaoui's court-appointed lawyers that she end the sentencing trial, now in its second week, and order that he be imprisoned for life instead of executed, as the government has urged.

She also scheduled a hearing for Tuesday to look into the improper sharing of information with seven witnesses — some of whom were scheduled to testify for the prosecution and some for the defense. The lawyer involved in the incident was identified by a federal official as Carla J. Martin of the Transpor-

tation Security Administration. Brinkema had earlier ordered that people scheduled to testify not be given access to transcripts by prior witnesses, a common order in such cases.

But Martin gave the witnesses transcripts of opening statements and of testimony last week by an FBI agent, Michael Anticev.

Two of the witnesses scheduled to appear for the government were identified as Lynne A. Osmus and Claudio Manno of the Federal Aviation Administration.

The testimony of aviation officials could be crucial because of the unusual nature of the hearing.

Moussaoui, a 37-year-old Frenchman of Moroccan heritage, has already pleaded guilty to six felony counts, three of which expose him to the death penalty. The only question before the jury is whether he should be executed or sentenced to life in prison.

When the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, were carried out, Moussaoui was in jail, having been arrested three weeks earlier in Minnesota, where he was taking flying lessons. The government has argued that he

deserves to be executed because he lied to investigators after his arrest about his knowledge of Al Qaeda plans to fly airplanes into buildings.

The aviation officials were expected to testify as to what steps might have been taken if Moussaoui had told the truth.

At the time of the Sept. 11 attacks, Osmus was the deputy associate administrator of the agency's Civil Aviation Security Program, and Manno was the director of the Office of Intelligence in that office. After the attacks, Congress transferred the job of aviation security to a new agency, the Transportation Security Administration, but Osmus and Manno are still with the FAA.

Edward J. MacMahon, Mouss-aoui's chief defense lawyer, said Martin had been engaged in "an obvious effort to shape the testimony of the witnesses."

David Novak, a prosecutor, agreed that the disclosures had been wrong. But he argued that the case should go forward and that any problems caused by Martin's actions could be remedied during cross-examination by Moussaoui's lawyers.

Milosevic Possibly Manipulated His Medication to Fake Illness

By Marlise Simons

THE NEW TORK II.

THE HAGUE, THE NETHERLANDS

A top toxicologist in the Netherlands said that he believed Slobodan Milosevic, the former Yugoslav leader, was manipulating medication to fake a medical condition, a plan that might have played a role in the heart attack that caused his death.

That theory was advanced by Dr. Donald Uges, professor of clinical and forensic toxicology at the University of Groningen, who posited that Milosevic was seeking to demonstrate that Dutch doctors could not cure him and that he should therefore be allowed to seek treatment, and freedom, in Moscow. He was imprisoned here on charges of war crimes and crimes against humanity including genocide during three Balkan wars in the 1990s.

Uges based his theory on his de-

tection in Milosevic's blood of a drug that had not been prescribed for him and that was not only inappropriate but, under the circumstances, dangerous. He was found on his bed in his prison cell on Saturday morning. The drug at issue is an antibiotic known as rifampicin, used to treat serious bacterial infections, such as tuberculosis. It is known to interfere with medications he was taking for high blood pressure.

An international team of doctors, including Dutch, Belgian, and Serbian forensic specialists, attended an autopsy on Sunday and said in a preliminary report that Milosevic had died of a heart attack. Their toxicology tests will be due in the coming days.

But experts from Moscow want to examine the results and perform their own autopsy in the belief that the previous one was inconclusive or erroneous, a plan that could delay Milosevic family plans to take the body to Belgrade for burial. Other investigations are still going on. Dutch police and the U.N. tribunal where Milosevic was on trial, are each carrying on their own investigations into his abrupt death. The discovery of the drug in Milosevic's blood as recently as two weeks ago has raised a litany of questions, including who brought it into the prison and how it ended up in Milosevic's system

Dutch police have searched for clues in the three rooms most used by Milosevic: his private cell, the small room he used as his office, and the room where he received visitors. They are also investigating the source of the drug, which is difficult to obtain in the Netherlands. All physicians treating Milosevic have reported that they never prescribed rifampicin for him, confidential court documents show.

WEATHER

More Sunlight

By Roberto Rondanelli

The transition between winter and summer is much awaited. The greatest rate of change in sunlight will occur during the next month as we go from 12 hours of sunlight on March 20 to almost an hour and a half more for the same day in April. However, cloudiness won't necessarily decrease with respect to wintertime. In Boston, February has on average 8 clear days and 13 cloudy days, whereas May has only 6 clear days and 15 cloudy days.

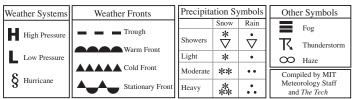
As for this week, the warm and moist trend will continue today. The low depicted in the map and the cold front associated with it were strong enough to produce a very active line of thunderstorms extending through part of the Midwest yesterday, causing some tornado warnings. As the front moves through our region, the line of thunderstorms and/or heavy rain will hit today before sunrise. Later today, temperatures will drop, along will cloudiness.

Extended Forecast

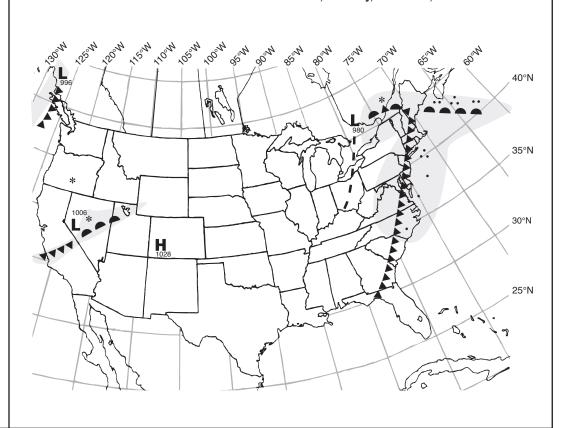
Today: Showers and a chance of thunderstorms during the morning. Then cloudy to partly cloudy in the afternoon with a chance of showers. Broken clouds and brisk in the evening. Low 46°F (8°C). High 56°F (13°C).

Wednesday: Partly cloudy and colder. Windy, especially in the afternoon. Low 34°F (1°C). High 47°F (8°C).

Thursday: Mostly clear. Breezy in the morning. Breeze gradually decreasing during the day. Low 28°F (-2°C). High 44°F (7°C).



Situation for Noon Eastern Standard Time, Tuesday, March 12, 2006



Iraqi Ex-Judge Under Saddam **Defends Shiite Death Sentences**

By Robert F. Worth

THE NEW YORK TIMES

BAGHDAD, IRAQ

A former judge in Saddam Hussein's Revolutionary Court acknowledged Monday that he sentenced 148 Shiites to death in 1984, but said they had received a proper trial and had confessed to trying to assassinate Saddam at the instigation of Iran.

The former judge, Awad al-Bandar, is one of eight defendants, including Saddam, accused in connection with the mass tortures and executions after the assassination attempt in 1982. The first high-level defendants testified Monday. Saddam is expected to speak Tuesday.

The chief prosecutor and judge often seemed amazed at Bandar's defense of his role in the trial of the 148 Shiites. Bandar said that the trial, in 1984, had taken two weeks, and that the dock in his courtroom had often been packed as the men moved in

The prosecutor, Jafar Musawi, showed Bandar documents indicating that 46 of the 148 defendants had been "liquidated during interrogation" before the trial. Prosecutors

have said the trial was a sham, but Bandar seemed not to understand. "Is it a strange thing that a defendant died during interrogation?" he said.

Musawi drove his point home shortly afterward, saying, "People were dying during interrogation, and the strange thing is that they were afterward being referred to the Revolutionary Court to get the death

Bandar angrily denied that. But he invoked the war with Iran as a necessary context for his actions, saying that "we had an external enemy and an internal enemy," and that the would-be assassins were members of the dissident Dawa Party, with links to Iran.

Saddam offered a similar selfdefense two weeks ago when he admitted ordering the trial, though he stopped short of saying he had signed the execution order prosecutors have introduced as documentary

Several defendants have questioned the authenticity of those documents, or suggested that they were marred by errors. "The typist must have made a mistake," Bandar said, when asked why the records of the Revolutionary Court show no mention of defense lawyers for the 148 Shiites who were executed.

Aside from Bandar, defendants who have given direct testimony so far this week have denied any role in the torture and executions carried out after the assassination attempt, in the Shiite village of Dujail. Taha Yassin Ramadan, a former vice president in Saddam's government, said he had no connection to the events

But Ramadan insisted on reading a lengthy written statement contending that he was tortured after his capture in August 2003. His captors included an American, he said, and they demanded to know where Saddam was. When he told them he did not know, they beat and kicked him for days, he said.

The other four defendants are local Baath Party officials who are accused of playing roles in the crackdown that followed the assassination attempt. Three testified Sunday, saying they were innocent of wrongdoing, and disavowing earlier signed statements given to investigators.

Exxon Mobil, Indonesian Company Near Agreement Over Oil Deposit

By Wayne Arnold

Ending five years of wrangling, Exxon Mobil appeared on Monday to have reached agreement with Indonesia's state-owned oil company, Pertamina, clearing the last hurdle to developing one of Indonesia's most promising oil deposits.

Exxon Mobil and Pertamina announced in Jakarta that they had concluded a joint-operating agreement that would allow the two companies to begin drilling for oil near the town of Cepu in eastern Java. The agreement, to be signed officially on Wednesday, calls for the establishment of a joint venture that will place executives from Exxon Mobil in charge of day-to-day operations, while Pertamina will head a joint oversight committee.

The agreement overcomes earlier demands by Pertamina that it take the first turn in alternating control of Cepu, a proposal rejected by Exxon Mobil as impractical. Unable to persuade Pertamina to budge and facing growing nationalist support for Pertamina, President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono of Indonesia fired Pertamina's president last week and

'We are pleased with this agreement," said Deva Rachman, an Exxon Mobil spokesman in Jakarta. "This is a partnership which will allow us with the company to develop the Cepu block that will have significant benefits for Indonesia," she added.

With an estimated 600 million barrels of oil and peak output of as much as 180,000 barrels of oil a day, Cepu could reverse a long and steady decline in oil production that has turned Indonesia, Asia's only member of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries, into a net oil importer. The new production could increase Indonesia's current production by almost 20 percent. Exxon said the development would cost more than \$2

Analysts also hailed the deal as a breakthrough for Yudhoyono's campaign to bolster government revenue and revive foreign investment in his impoverished country, the most populous Muslim nation. The dispute over Cepu had come to embody reservations among foreign investors about the difficulties they face in In-

"This will be a real shot in the arm for an industry that hasn't been receiving a lot of investment," said James W. Castle, president of the business consultancy Castle Asia in Jakarta. "It's a real boon for business and that will probably spill over into the attitude for overall investment in Indonesia."

Oil is one of Indonesia's largest exports and one of the government's biggest sources of revenue. But Indonesia's oil wells are drying up faster than new fields are being developed. New exploration has been hindered by reservations among oil companies about legal security, corruption, and local unrest in Indonesia.

Cepu had come to illustrate the obstacles and risks to exploration in Indonesia. Though Cepu was discovered more than a decade ago, Pertamina concluded that its fields were largely depleted. It sold the right to scour the fields — it later said it was forced to sell - to a son of Suharto, Hutomo Mandala Putra, who is known as Tommy.

Tommy's company, unable to recover oil, eventually sold the contract

Clinical Trial Shows That Implanted **Heart Device Could Reduce Migraines**

THE NEW YORK TIMES

An implanted device that repairs a congenital heart defect can reduce the frequency and severity of migraine headaches, but does not prevent the migraines altogether, according to preliminary results from the first rigorous clinical trial of the device for migraine therapy.

Although the product's maker, NMT Medical, called the preliminary findings promising, the results disappointed investors because NMT had been seeking a definitive finding that the device could stop the headaches. Shares of the company, which is based in Boston, plunged nearly 33 percent in heavy trading on Monday after the findings were announced, closing at \$14.04.

The clinical trial, which took place in Britain, used NMT Medical's StarFlex device to close a hole between the upper chambers of the heart that as many as 25 percent of adults have from birth. Besides being linked to some types of strokes, the hole has been associated with migraine attacks among people having

While the study missed its main goal of showing that closing the hole could halt migraines, it found that 42 percent of the patients reported at least a 50 percent decline in the number of days they had headaches, nearly twice as many as in the control group that did not get the device.

That result, according to doctors, analysts and NMT competitors who heard the report Monday morning at the American College of Cardiology meeting in Atlanta, reinforced the belief that there is a real if poorly understood link between the holes and migraine. "That would be a good outcome in a migraine drug trial," said John Barr, chief executive of AGA Medical, which will shortly begin migraine trials in the United States and Europe for its own closure

NMT Medical said the results would be useful in designing further clinical trials. Analysts have forecast a potential multibillion-dollar market for the closure devices. More than 30 million Americans suffer various types of migraine attacks each year.

SunTrust Robinson Humphrey, calculates that 1.5 million Americans and twice that many people in the rest of the world could be candidates for such devices.

"The flurry of activity in the investment community has been unbelievable," said Dr. Robert Sommer, a cardiologist at Columbia University Medical Center and New York-Presbyterian Hospital. "I've been getting four or five calls a week looking for investment advice."

The British study was smaller, with just 147 patients, and shorter, with just a six-month horizon, than regulators in Europe or the United States would require before approving such a therapy. The investigators, who rushed to analyze the data for presentation in Atlanta, said that many more details would be reported on at a major neurology meeting in three weeks. They noted that the number of patients who benefited grew over time and that they had found a higher-than-forecast correlation between patients with large holes and severe migraines.

Serbia Approves a Milosevic Funeral in Belgrade

By Nicholas Wood

THE NEW YORK TIMES

The Serbian government offered to allow the funeral and burial of Slobodan Milosevic to take place in Belgrade, paving the way for a gathering of his ultranationalist supporters. Government officials said that a warrant for the arrest of Milosevic's wife, Mirjana Markovic, would be removed, enabling her to attend what the one senior government official insisted would be a private ceremony.

Markovic had been wanted by a court in Belgrade after she failed to appear at a hearing last year to face charges of fraud related to an apartment sale. She is believed to have been living in Moscow for the last three years. Despite the government's wishes for a quiet private funeral ceremony, members of Milosevic's Socialist Party appeared to be seizing the opportunity to try to revive its flagging popularity by planning a gathering of supporters.

"I believe that first he has to be placed somewhere so people have a couple of days to express their respects, and then a large funeral," said Vladimir Krsljanin, a former foreign relations adviser to Milosevic. "There will be foreign delegations and speeches and so on," Krsljanin said. He added the government needed to provide for the kind of ceremony the former president deserved.

"Such a large gathering of people and emotions can turn into something else, if the government doesn't show maturity. You can not act against the masses."

Preparing the way, Deputy Prime-Minister Mirosljub Labus told regional news stations that the government had informed the Milosevic family that it would allow the family for "a private funeral."

Democrats Retreat On Call To Censure President

By Carl Hulse

Senate Democrats on Monday blocked an immediate vote on a call by one of their own to censure President Bush for his eavesdropping program. The Democrats acted after Republicans had said they were eager to pass judgment on a proposal that they portrayed as baseless and disruptive to the anti-terror effort.

Minutes before Sen. Russell D. Feingold, D-Wis., formally introduced his resolution reprimanding Bush, Sen. Bill Frist of Tennessee, the majority leader, said Republicans were ready to vote by the end of the day or on Tuesday.

'When we're talking about censure of the president of the United States at a time of war, when this president is out defending the American people with a very good, lawful, constitutional program, it is serious business," Frist said. "If they want to make an issue out of it, we're willing to do just that."

Democrats, while distancing themselves from Feingold's assertion that the president "plainly broke the law" in approving surveillance without warrants, said his proposal merited more consideration than a hasty vote.

Capital One Reported on Deal Of \$14.6 Billion for North Fork

By Andrew Ross Sorkin and Eric Dash

The Capital One Financial Corp. agreed Sunday to acquire the North Fork Bancorp. for about \$14.6 billion in cash and stock, people involved in the negotiations said.

The acquisition, which is expected to be announced Monday, would give Capital One a strong retail banking foothold in the Northeast as growth of its nationwide credit card franchise slows.

The transaction would also the end the independence of North Fork, based in Melville, N.Y., which transformed itself over the past decade from a small community bank into a regional player through a series of acquisitions.

Over the past few years, Capital One has hinted about its retail

Other standalone credit card companies, beset by higher borrowing costs as well as a slowdown in credit card growth, have been snapped up by larger competitors. But Capital One has been determined to remain independent and diversify its business.

Last fall, the company acquired the Hibernia National Bank, which operates more than 300 branches in Louisiana and Texas. It has expanded its presence into other areas like auto, home equity and college

With the acquisition of North Fork, the combined company will have deposits of more than \$84 billion, a managed loan portfolio of more than \$143 billion, more than 50 million customer accounts and

Mad Cow Disease Confirmed In Alabama

By Donald G. Mcneil Jr.

THE NEW YORK TIMES

The nation's third case of mad cow disease has been confirmed on a farm in Alabama, the Agriculture Department announced on Monday.

The animal was killed last week by a private veterinarian after it collapsed, and it was buried on the farm, which the department did

"It did not enter the animal or human food chains," said Dr. John Clifford, chief veterinary officer for the department.

The cow's teeth suggested that the animal was more than 10 years old, Clifford said, meaning it was born before the 1997 ban on feed that contained parts from cattle and other ruminant animals.

The department will now try to trace where the cow was born and find other members of its birth herd, which presumably ate the same

Consumers Union said the finding of a third infected cow "underlines the need to take additional precautions." The group wants a ban on feeding restaurant waste, sweepings from chicken coop floors, and cows' blood to cows.

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OPINION



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MIT Can't Access Its Own Research

The only believable investigations are independent investigations. Therefore, the only credible result of the Department of Defense's in-house investigation of allegations of fraudulent research

Editorial

at MIT's Lincoln Laboratories will be the finding that the allegations are true. In question is the

validity of a now-classified report approved by a team including two Lincoln Lab researchers in 1998 that certified a system used to test missile-defense technology. It will be impossible for MIT's advisor to the investigation to verify the rigorousness of any finding because the DoD's restrictions will prevent him from seeing either the data in question or the questions themselves.

The failure of President Susan Hockfield and President Emeritus Charles M. Vest to secure a truly independent investigation means that in almost any scenario, the black mark of these allegations on MIT's reputation cannot be erased. The situation leaves MIT with an unsatisfactory set of choices on how to respond: the Institute can choose to cease research it cannot verify and then risk the political fallout from the DoD, hope that the current opposition to transparency and accountability in the federal government is a passing phase, or ignore the problem and hope that everyone forgets about it, at least until someone makes a new allegation of fraud.

Ironically, the actual research under scrutiny is in itself not that important now; instead, it has opened a window into the obstacles MIT faces when it seeks to investigate the integrity of its researchers who are doing classified research. The research, done by the former military contractor TRW Inc., now part of Northrop Grumman, consists of sensors and a computer program designed to distinguish between missiles and decoys, such as weather balloons. A senior engineer at TRW claimed in 1996 that the com-

pany had exaggerated its success, setting off a series of investigations — finding both for and against TRW — including the one led by MIT's Lincoln Lab exonerating TRW. MIT's integrity came into question when MIT Professor Theodore A. Postol '67, who has successfully uncovered missile-defense fraud in the past, publicly claimed that based on his own analysis, the Lincoln Lab report was fraudulent. The government ultimately chose not to use TRW's technology, and although Postol claims other systems in use are similar to TRW's, the issue lives on today because MIT said it would investigate his claims of fraud. MIT's investigation hit a brick wall when the DoD declined the Institute's investigators access to necessary documents, which led to the recent compromise of the DoD carrying out its own investigation with an MIT

As it stands, MIT's failure to carry out its own investigation damages the credibility of all research at the Institute, because it weakens MIT's ability to publicly certify the quality of its research. While the issue has little direct impact on undergraduate or graduate education, every student at MIT has a stake in the ability of the Institute to have an authoritative process for investigating claims of falsified research. Although Associate Provost Claude R. Canizares is leading a lessons-learned committee, there is a bigger problem about running classified research programs when no one in the Institute can be guaranteed access to review the results of the research. The government's recent antipathy to transparency is probably part of the problem, but it is dangerous to wait and hope things change, given that there is no guarantee that the tsunami of classification will recede anytime soon. No matter what the outcome of the current investigation, MIT needs guaranteed access to its classified research projects, or it will watch its reputation for integrity decline with each debacle.

Corrections

The March 10 article "Graduate Programs Receive More Applications" incorrectly reported the expected number for matriculation of the Civil and Environmental Engineering department. It is usually 60, not 120.



Opinion Policy

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Dissents are the opinions of signed members of the editorial board choosing to publish their disagreement with the editorial.

Letters to the editor, columns, and editorial cartoons are written by individuals and represent the opinion of the author, not necessarily that of the newspaper. Electronic submissions are encouraged and should be sent to letters@the-tech.mit.edu. Hard copy submissions should be addressed to The Tech, P.O. Box 397029, Cambridge, Mass. 02139-7029, or sent by interdepartmental mail to Room W20-483. All submissions are due by 4:30 p.m. two days before the date of publication.

Letters, columns, and cartoons must bear the authors' signatures, addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will not be accepted. *The Tech* reserves the right to edit or condense letters; shorter letters will be given higher priority. Once submitted, all letters become property of *The Tech*, and will not be returned. *The Tech* makes no commitment to publish all the letters received.

Guest columns are opinion articles submitted by members of the MIT or local community and have the author's name in italics. Columns without italics are written by *Tech* staff

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Letters To The Editor

Labor Relations A Focus for Coca-Cola

Nakul Vyas' Feb. 28 article urged MIT students to consider banning Coca-Cola products because of allegations of labor rights abuses in Colombia.

As the Director of Global Labor Relations at Coca-Cola, I share the concerns of student activists regarding labor conditions around the world. Through my work on the United Nations International Labor Organization, I have seen firsthand the manifold difference it makes in the lives of individuals, families, communities and entire countries when employers live up to the responsibilities due their workers. In my experience, the campaigns that are the most successful are those grounded in irrefutable fact and driven by a commitment to justice. In the case of the campaign against The Coca-Cola Company, the facts tell quite a different story than reported by the Students for Workers' Rights, and ignoring them for the sake of political gain does justice great harm.

The Coca-Cola Company is committed to promoting fair labor practices everywhere we do business. In Colombia and around the world, we respect workers' rights to unionize and we do not tolerate intimidation of union members. We engage regularly with internationally respected organizations to review our labor standards and work with us in assessing compliance with these standards in our operations worldwide.

Because we take concerns about Coca-Cola operations in Colombia seriously, two weeks ago we submitted a request to the International Labor Organization (ILO) to conduct an independent investigation and evaluation of the labor relations, human rights and workers' rights practices at Coca-Cola bottling facilities in Colombia. The International Union of Food, Agricultural, Hotel, Restaurant, Catering, Tobacco and Allied Workers' Associations (IUF) also sent the same request to the ILO to conduct an independent investigation and evaluation of the same.

This is an important next step in acting on our commitment to a new independent assessment as we continue striving to take a leadership role in ensuring the rights and safety of workers around the world.

Beyond Colombia, our Global Labor Relations team at The Coca-Cola Company has been working to develop a Workplace Rights Policy—the first of its kind for our entire industry. The policy will contain our commitment to foster an open and inclusive environment based on recognized workplace human rights. We have received comments on the draft policy by external human rights organizations.

You can find information about our commitments to worker's rights at www.cokefacts.org.

Edward E. Potter Director, Global Labor Relations and Workplace Accountability

Living and Learning with MIT Housing

Harvey Jones, John R. Velasco

Recently, administrators announced that the Institute would build a new graduate dormitory and that the Ashdown graduate residence would be remodeled to accommodate undergraduates.

Let us posit, hypothetically, that undergraduate housing would be randomized along with

Spotlight on Housing

other changes to the housing system in 2008, as has been has been proposed at several junc-

tions in our time at MIT. In this scenario, from 2008 forward, all frosh would be placed in the 12 undergraduate dorms at random, perhaps with a gender-based exception for McCormick no lotteries, no i3, no REX. Why would this be a bad idea?

It is a bad idea because the foundation of the MIT housing system is choice, and housing is an integral part of undergraduate life and learning. Choice of where to live is the foundation for much of the undergraduate experience at MIT, and making that choice empowers students to take on their role as adults. It is one of the highlights of the first year experience, and not just

For example, in recent years the Admissions department has wisely realized that living groups are a vital and unique part of MIT, and have used student communities to recruit potential students. Before even arriving at the Institute, pre-frosh have the privilege of learning that MIT's housing system is more than a collection of rooms — it's a group of people that chose MIT and chose their living group and are fiercely proud of both choices. During

Campus Preview Weekend and throughout the year, MIT's dorms, fraternities, sororities, and independent living groups open their doors to welcome prospective students and encourage them to attend MIT.

Choosing where to live is a multi-faceted decision that students may be making for the first time, but certainly not the last. The housing decision requires freshmen to make decisions about food, atmosphere, neighbors, finances, and facilities that they will face numerous times throughout their lives. By giving students the ability to control where they live, MIT allows students to choose between Central and Kenmore, Burton Third and Third East, and between kosher dining, a fraternity chef, or dormitory kitchens. Students value the opportunity to make these decisions free from restrictions by MIT — we won't discuss the requirement for freshmen to live on campus here.

Dorms at MIT are not equal in terms of the facilities that they offer, but the communities fostered by the residential system ensure that even the older dorms are among the most in demand. Students, faculty, and alumni often describe the residential communities developed in our living groups as one of the strongest assets of student life.

MIT is an open institution, and one that gives its students a large amount of personal responsibility. MIT rightly expects its students to use that responsibility wisely, and to a large extent, they do. By letting students define their own communities by self-selection, MIT fosters an atmosphere where students take the responsibility for their dorm and the people in it. This responsibility is reflected in the day to day operations of the dorm, as well as the strong role that residences play in organizing student leadership at MIT, from the Undergraduate Association Senate to

the Dormitory Council, and the Interfraternity Council and Panhel for Greek living groups.

Historically, living groups have been recognized as a significant source of academic, social, and emotional support. It is part of what the Task Force on Student Life and Learning in a 1998 report called the "Educational Triad" and identified as the "heart of the MIT community." The residential system remains today an essential cornerstone of the network of academic support that allows MIT to continue to produce the

Strong residential communities need upperclassmen to pass down traditions and knowledge, but they also need an influx of interested students every year. MIT's system allows the frosh who are interested in intramural sports or electronics or music to cluster in the living group that will enable them to act on their talents on a much larger scale than in high school. Much of MIT's culture is designed around its living groups. From traditions such as Orange Tours, Steer Roast, Next Act, Lip Sync, and Marathon Day, the housing system at MIT is distinct and unique — we would wager to say that without it, MIT would not be MIT.

For these reasons, it is important that future generations of MIT undergraduates are able to continue to choose their living group and become active and productive members of their communities in dorms, fraternities, sororities, and independent living groups. And for these reasons, it is important for undergraduate and graduate students to be actively involved in decisions on the highest level have an impact far beyond just their lives at MIT, which fundamentally define our Institute.

Harvey Jones '06 is President of Dormitory Council and John R. Velasco G is a former UA senator from fraternities.

Lowell/ Kelch: Strong Policy and Reform

Sarah C. Hopp

It was no great surprise for those of us who know Jessica H. Lowell '07 when she announced her candidacy for Undergraduate Association President. Jessie was one of the first people I talked to upon arriving at MIT as a naïve freshman, and even back then I could tell that she knew what was going on around MIT. Whether it's something that happened ten years ago that's still affecting students today, or something the administration is planning to spring on us in a month, Jessie probably knows about it.

The most striking example of Jessie's ability keep tabs on the administration was her role in the development of the new Policy on Unauthorized Access (mostly relevant to roofs). In August she was one of the first students who heard that the fine for the first offense would be raised from \$50 to \$500. Instead of panicking and flailing wildly, she quickly contacted the appropriate administrators, and did not give up her fight to change the policy despite the pessimism

She knows the administration and is willing to passionately advocate for the students when apathy and cynicism reign.

Let My People JľOW

Krishna Gupta

Governments rise and fall, and their people go with them. It remains difficult to discern whether the West, particularly the United States, successfully influences the administration of other countries through its actions, or lack thereof. Although self-interest must play a role in the United States' approach to effecting change in different countries, its primary focus should be the growth and development of the people.

Can there really be an overarching general principle of interference that works? Nobelist Amartya Sen writes of development as an increase in the freedoms and basic rights of people. With such an objective, let's take a look at some recent developments that demonstrate the ability of U.S., through action or inaction, to influence other countries and the welfare of their people. We'll look at action gone awry in the Middle East, inaction in the Himalayas, and Bush's brainlessness in Bolivia.

The Palestinian Authority has never really been the apple of America's eye. They've killed innocent civilians, embarked on an extremist route, claimed land that isn't necessarily theirs, etc. Wait, that sounds so familiar. Hasn't Israe — shh, you didn't read that. We have always favored Israel in the Middle East, mainly because it has served our interests most wonderfully. Frankly, there's nothing wrong with favoritism – I, too, have best friends who contribute to my well-being. And, although apparently quail hunting is out of style these days, there are plenty of other instructive envors that emerge from partnerships. How ever, we should never allow favoritism to hurt people or entire countries.

Some weeks ago, the so-called terrorist outfit Hamas won the Palestinian elections, much to the shock of the entire world. The response to this relatively democratic victory has been stunningly disappointing. The U.S. and western Europe have turned on the electoral process and have insisted that Hamas give up its identity as a group that rejects the existence of Israel. It seems clear that the West aims to rid itself, with one blow, of the terrible, terrorist operation known as "opposition." I call this an outrageous violation of human liberties

and true democratic ideals – the people will have even less of a voice and fewer freedoms; they will suffer. The U.S. should interfere, but it should work with Hamas, much as Russia indicated it would during Hamas' historic visit to Moscow last week. Only by justly allowing Hamas to rule its own constituency can we hope to effect change in its treatment of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, and thus naturally improve the freedoms of the people. As the expected Hamas prime minister declared, the West "must recognize the rights of our people and respect the rules of the democratic

While the West has attempted to control proceedings in the Middle East, it has left the Nepalese to their lonely selves. Ever since a large-scale Maoist insurgency took root in 1996, the only real symbol of power left unscathed has been the great Mt. Everest, a towering testament to glorious days of the past.

King Gyanendra abolished the government for the second time in three years in February 2005 and assumed full executive powers. Since then, he's ruthlessly silenced the media and any opposition, and last October codified much

of his imprisonment of the press into law.

The unrest has killed over 12,000 people, and last year alone, 1,500 were killed and a further 15,000 children were abducted and indoctrinated. The capital has been threatened, and election candidates are being attacked and killed But what has the West done about this? Nothing. Very little pressure has been exerted on Gyanendra, and no action has been taken besides the occasional statement by U.S. Ambassador Moriarty, who lacks the wit and intimidation of his namesake, the famous Sherlock Holmes adversary. Is it fair to condemn the people to perpetual strife because the country offers little prospect of compensation, economic or otherwise, to potential saviors? Although the Nepalese monarchy has serious troubles, the Maoists must not be allowed to take complete control, for that would lead to a long-term loss of liberties. What good are communist ideals for the people when their

implementation is so fragmented? To prevent catastrophe and to supplant shoddy leadership, we should prop up the current government and provide increased economic support. Although this is difficult to carry out directly, it is more realistic to pressure India to lend much more significant aid to Nepal, especially considering that the Maoists have caused serious trouble in several Indian states. Only through peace and economic growth will the lower classes have a chance at gaining more freedoms.

We should also consider the profound changes in Bolivia. During the Bush presidency, Latin America has markedly tilted towards the left, in defiance of free-market policies so strongly advocated by the currently conservative United States. How did we let this happen? Conscious laissez-faire? No. Lack of respect? Clearly. The Latin American leaders, given a new face by Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez, have clearly stated their supposed in-

While the West has attempted

to control proceedings

in the Middle East, it has left

tent to serve their people first and foremost. What they really mean doesn't matter at this point – the declaration itself is enough to establish some progress. the Nepalese to their lonely selves. So it went in Bolivia this past month, where the election of Evo

> Morales as president marks the first time since the Spanish conquest that an indigenous Indian has held the post. It is extremely refreshing to witness a block of countries conducting business in a manner unadulterated by supremely selfish American maneuvers. Morales' words and actions signal a new direction for Rolivia one in which his people can claim ownership of their country and their future. Taking into account these strong-willed visionaries, we should give Latin America more political autonomy and let the electorate decide its out-

Russian President Vladimir Putin had the right idea when he stated that "If we want to deal with complex global problems we only have to do this together ... we should sit down together and listen to what others say ..." Instead of adopting a blanket policy that serves only our interests, we must think of the peo-

expressed by other students. A few months later Jessie had managed to change the policy to include community service punishments instead of a massive \$500 fine — a feat that many had deemed impossible.

Jessie's success in changing the roof fine policy was no coincidence. She knows the administration and is willing to passionately advocate for the students when apathy and cynicism reign. She has bridged the gap between students and the administration by communicating with her constituency and acknowledging their needs and their criticism. She knows that she is not perfect and is willing to admit her shortcomings: as UA Vice President, Jessie admittedly focused nearly all of her energy on policy instead of making improvements within the UA itself.

That's why Jessie's choice of Steven M. Kelch '08 as a running mate makes sense. Steve's willingness to "break kneecaps" within the UA to make sure people do their job complements Jessie's ability to work with administrators on the outside. Steve knows how a committee should be run — he is the Chair of the Student Committee on Administrative Transparency and Relations and is ready to hold other committees to his high standards. Steve is intent on holding committees accountable, and has no qualms about changing their leadership in order to improve the UA's ability to serve students.

With their combined abilities, Jessie and Steve offer the perfectly balanced ticket for UA President and Vice President: Jessie has already proven her ability to navigate the intricacies of the administration, and Steve is ready to foster improvements within the UA itself. Unlike the other candidates, Jessie and Steve represent both dormitory and FSILG residents. Both have already advocated for the student body and will continue to do so as UA President and Vice President.

I am confident in the abilities of Jessica Lowell and Steven Kelch to fulfill the roles of President and Vice President and thus offer them my full support, as I hope the rest of the student body

Sarah Hopp '08 is a UA Senator for East

Check one:

Stick it to the man

Apply it gingerly to the non-gender-specific authority figure

Opinions wanted: letters@the-tech.mit.edu

THE TECH March 14, 2006 Page 6

What do MBAs actually add to my team?

From Technologists:

Will an MBA try to "steal"

my company?

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MIT \$50K

tomorrow's Creating leading firms



MODERATOR

Richard Resnick, CEO HarmonyLine and Former \$50K Runner-up



REPREN

Atlas Ventures Ahmet Ozalp



George Cooney BCE Capital





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Ventures

Advanced

OMPET

How do I approach a technologist?

How do I manage an MBA?

From MBAs:

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Which technologist will make

the transaction to business from lab?

Carl Stjernfeldt





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Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Campus Life

Ask Nutty B!

By Bruce Wu

Nutty B is currently a graduate student at MIT who tries to give his two cents' worth on anything and everything. You know the drill! Please e-mail him with any questions, and give him an excuse to procrastinate at 3 a.m. Send all questions to askNuttyB@yahoo.com.

Dear Nutty B,

I was chatting with this cute guy online recently. In the middle of the chat my internet got disconnected, and when I returned he was gone. I don't have his e-mail, but I want to explain myself. What is the appropriate etiquette? Should I stalk him?

Dear Cray Z,

First of all, you don't happen to be "JuicyBabe," do you? If so, I ... um, I mean my friend PimptasticBeaverPrince, wants you to know that no harm was done, he fell into a drooling sleep as he waited for you the other night. He wants me to let you know that he looks forward to another chat soon.

And if you aren't JuicyBabe, well, I don't really

have any advice regarding the "proper" etiquette. Stalk him? Nah. If you don't know his contact info, how can you stalk him? If you could already trace his IP address using your stolen FBI gear, you wouldn't be asking me this question. I suppose my first piece of advice is to get rid of the dial-up, if you are still using it. Second, since I am an old-fashioned believer of destiny, I think if you two are meant to talk again, you will someday. If that's the case, not only will you be able to exchange contact information, but you'll feel more "connected" because then you'll know you're both interested. Best of luck!

— Cray Z Dear Nutty B,

After a long year of debate with myself, I've finally decided to seek help from a psychiatrist for my depression. I've been on some medications for awhile now, and I've actually felt a lot better. The problem is that very often I feel that my friends, and even strangers, can sense I am taking medication, and that makes me uneasy. While I am a very social person, I do want to keep that part of me private. What do I do?

Slightly Paranoid

Dear Slightly Paranoid,

You can "sense" people's feelings now? Who are you, Miss Cleo, the psychic on TV? Can you also sense what I did last summer? If so, please let me know, so I can move those plastic garbage bags ...

I would like to congratulate you first. It's very admirable and brave that you finally faced your inner demons and seek help, and there is nothing to be ashamed of.

You are entitled to keep your private life, well, private. Perhaps you've changed and become more confident and cheerful, but that's a good thing, isn't it? These uneasy feelings about people's sensing your medications might be your own doing. One thing that might have an impact on your social life is that common anti-depressants require you to minimize your alcohol consumption. However, unless you are a well-known big lush like I am, no one should really notice any dramatic change if you don't drink at a party. If anyone asks, you can always say you like to have juice for the night because you are driving, walking, or, um ... singing. For peace of mind, I'd also talk to your doctor. I am sure he/she will provide you with the information that will make you sleep more soundly. At any rate, congratulations again on feeling better.

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SCHEDULE:

Sunday, March 26, 2006, 7pm-9:15pm Monday, March 27, 2006, 9am-5:30pm Tuesday, March 28, 2006, 9am-5:30pm LOCATION: The Picower Building, MIT 43 Vassar Street, Cambridge, MA

Auditorium: 46-3002 least in the Picower Seminar Room 46-3310

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The Picower Institute





The **Tech**

















Wait...do you hear that? The

stars are finally responding...

find your strength...

They're telling me how we can

Really?



Page 8











Trio

TRIO WEBSITE: ALUM.MIT.EDU/WWW/EMIE

What was that, stars? You want me to do what? Are you sure?

So, what are they

Mommies

Okay, stars. You're the boss...





A Saferide Experience

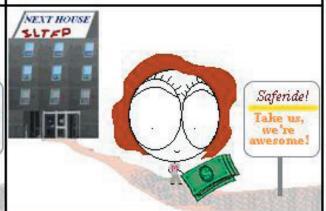
It was a nice Saturday night at the beginning of October. It was around 6 o'clock and the temperature was in the low sixties. I had decided to do groceries for the first time since arriving at MIT. All by myself--without

my mommy.

SLTEP

NEXT HOUSE

Star Market is like a mile away from the Next House dorm. I thought that I could probably take the awesome Saferide, but I had never taken it before and I felt like walking at the moment.



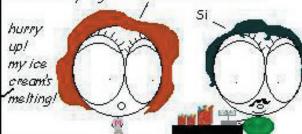
by Otoniel Tabares and Shahbano Imran

Everything at Star Market was going fine and dandy until:



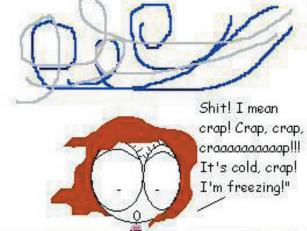
He was Hispanic, so I decided to make him feel at home.

Contra! No traje suficiente dinero. Puedo ir a buscar mas y regresar come en media hora?



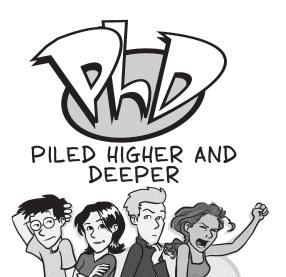
I had bought too much stuff--a common mistake of novices and most experienced people too. I didn't have enough money, so now I had to go back to get a couple more of the green thingies.

I had been at the market for two hours, and could not even imagine the horror that I was about to see.



The temperature had dropped like twenty degrees and the wind was blowing like fifteen mph faster. There was nothing that could possibly make things worse.























ACROSS 1 Capital on the Tigris

8 Train unit 15 Lift

16 Sculptor Chillida 17 Like a liberated woman?

18 Cheerleading accessories

19 "L'Arlesienne Suites" composer

20 Miner's product 22 "The Man Who Fell to Earth" star

23 Fertile loam 24 "The Wedding Banquet" director Ang

25 Give a near miss

26 Mess up 27 Out of fashion 29 Columnist Hentoff 65 Sword cases

30 Uncouple 33 1997 20-game winner Denny

36 Major celeb 38 Tranquilize 41 Spine piece

45 Jurist Fortas 46 Showing no

emotion 48 Part of a journey 49 Makes do

52 Helping hand 53 Shadow cast 55 Potato-filled turnover

56 PGA member 57 Ivan of tennis 58 Not genuine 60 "__ and Johnny"

62 Speaker 63 Relative obesity 64 Renters

DOWN

1 Gurgled 2 Deductive

3 Cud-chewers, often

4 Alan and Nathan 5 Weight-loss plans

6 Silly billy 7 Forlorn

8 Conical dwellings

9 Hubbub 10 Makes insensitive

horn

11 Silk-cotton tree 12 Tooting one's

13 Naval leader 14 Ribbon ornament

21 Extra supply 27 Hollow tubes 28 Portal

31 NATO member

32 Fanatic fan

34 Dine

35 ls plural? 37 Departure parties 38 Santa's quantity

39 Vulcanized

rubber 40 Represents

42 Cover with a thick layer

43 Tinged with crimson

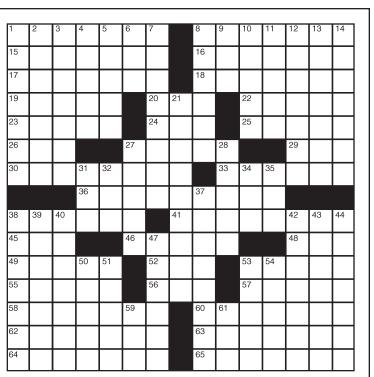
44 Never outdated 47 Sharpens to a point

50 __ Park, CO 51 Old English county

53 List of nominees 54 Salon tint

59 Two-finger aesture

61 Sound from a fan



FoxTrot by Bill Amend

Dilbert® by Scott Adams

Bonus Crossword

Solution, page 12

- **ACROSS**
- 1 Largest of our seven 5 Sacred service
- 9 Bed supports
- 14 Uncool kid
- 15 The same, on the
- Seine 16 Wilkes-__, PA
- 17 Gambler's choice
- 20 Anti-inflammatory drug
- 21 Med. sch. subj. 22 Colorful chalcedony
- 25 Experiment
- 27 Ripen 28 Side-to-side
- 31 Family of Indy
- winners 33 MOMA word
- 34 French Open champ 38 Gambler's choice
- 43 Disciple
- 44 Stroke gently
- 46 Shells and elbows 49 Small trading units
- 52 TV brand
- 53 "Peter Pan" pirate 57 Rajah's wife
- 58 Pac-10 team
- 60 Tumbler
- 63 Gambler's choice 68 Ms. Lauder
- 69 Lustful look
- 70 Hosiery hue

- 72 Not working 73 Paper quantity
- **DOWN** 1 Picnic invader

71 Stone pillar

Marmara 3 Nettle

- 4 "__ Fideles" 5 Bundle of
- nerves 6 Sikorsky of
- helicopters 7 Fortune deck
- 8 Songwriter Greenwich 9 Mom-&-pop
- store grp. 10 Red hot
- flower? 11 Sites for fights
- 12 Process for sorting injured
- 13 Hunting dog 18 Way of old Rome
- 19 Begley and Meese 22 C.S.A. state
- 23 John Irving character
- 24 Aleutian island 26 Ballerina's skirt

29 Dog food brand

- 30 Country on the Mekong
- 32 Kind of profit 35 PC monitor element
- 36 Norway capital 37 Cast off
- 39 Create lace

47 Confront

- 40 Arrow-poison tree 41 Current (with)
- 42 Rose of Reds 45 Mao __-Tung 46 Prigs
- 48 Military gesture 50 Dang!
- 51 Shaving foam 54 Actress West
- 55 Pathogenic bacteria 56 Goofed 59 Seth's brother
- 61 Like Nash's lama 62 Endured 64 Grant or Majors
- 65 Rink surface 66 Gun lobby 67 Plant secretion

su do ku

© Puzzles by Pappocom

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column, row, and 3 by 3 grid contains exactly one of each of the digits 1 through 9. Solution, tips, and computer program at http://www.sudoku. com; see also solution, page 15.

Page 10 THE TECH March 14, 2006



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March 14, 2006 THE TECH Page 11

U.S. Colleges Opening Minority Aid to All Students

By Jonathan D. Glater

THE NEW YORK TIMES

Facing threats of litigation and pressure from Washington, colleges and universities nationwide are opening to white students hundreds of thousands of dollars in fellowships, scholarships and other programs previously aimed at minorities.

Southern Illinois University reached a consent decree last month with the Justice Department to allow nonminority students and men access to graduate fellowships originally created for women and minorities. In January, the State University of New York made white students eligible for \$6.8 million of aid in two scholarship programs also previously available just for minorities. Pepperdine University is negotiating with the Education Department over its use of race as a criterion in its programs.

"They're all trying to minimize their legal exposure," Susan Sturm, a law professor at Columbia University, said about colleges and universities. "The question is how are they doing that, and are they doing that in a way that's going to shut down any effort or any successful effort to diversify the student body?"

The institutions are reacting to two 2003 Supreme Court cases on using race in admissions at the University of Michigan. Although the cases did not ban using race in admissions to higher education, they did leave the state of the law unclear, and with the changing composition of the court, some university and college officials fear legal challenges.

The affected areas include programs for high schools and graduate fellowships.

It is far too early to determine the effects of the changes on the presence of minorities in higher education and how far the pool of money for scholarships and similar programs will stretch.

Firm data on how many institutions have modified their policies is elusive

because colleges and institutions are not eager to trumpet the changes. At least a handful are seeking to put more money into the programs as they expand the possible pool of applicants.

Some white students are qualifying for the aid. Last year, in response to a legal threat from the Education Department, Washington University in St. Louis modified the standards for an undergraduate scholarship that had been open just to minorities and was named for the first African-American dean at the university. This year, the first since the change, 12 of the 42 first-year recipients are white.

Officials at conservative groups

that are pushing for the changes see the shift as a sign of success in eliminating race as a factor in decision making in higher education.

"Our concern is that the law be followed and that nobody be denied participation in a program on account of skin color or what country their ancestors came from," said Roger Clegg, president and general counsel of the Center for Equal Opportunity, which has been pressing institutions on the issue.

"We're not looking at achieving a particular racial outcome," Clegg added. "And it's unfortunate that some organizations seem to view the success or failure of the program based simply on what percentage of students of this color or that color can participate."

Advocates of focused scholarships programs like Theodore M. Shaw, president of the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund Inc., challenge the notion that programs for minority students hurt whites. "How is it that they conclude that the great evil in this country is discrimination against white people?" Shaw asked. "Can I put that question any more pointedly? I struggle to find the words to do it because it's so stunning"

Shaw said protecting scholarships

Minority Aid, Page 15

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THE TECH March 14, 2006 Page 12

Textbook Costs, Dining Among Candidates' Priorities

Candidates, from Page 1

Lukmann and Miller said they would tackle the issue of textbook costs at the Coop, by having professors list any required textbooks for a course in the Registrar's class listing, giving time for students to buy it ahead of time.

They also cited a program at

students negotiated with textbook publishers directly, obtaining deep discounts through bulk purchasing. These savings were passed on to the student body without profit, they said.

Miller and Lukmann also called for increased transparency in longterm administration planning, for

such as the recently-announced closing of Ashdown, as well as less tangible issues such as reform of the undergraduate curriculum.

If elected, by what metrics will Lukmann and Miller judge the success of their administration? Miller said that she would "see what [Finance Board] budget looks like, and

more money." Lukmann cited getting student groups more money, by both reducing the UA's budget and exploring non-traditional funding sources, as an important goal.

Lukmann said he would gauge his success as UA president by a poll of students, and looking at how well they believe the UA "shares

Lowell and Kelch

Lowell and Kelch emphasized that they will hold people accountable. Their online campaign platform calls for the replacement or removal of ineffective UA members.

Kelch expressed desire for the UA to be the body students turn to whenever they have a question or problem regarding their relationship with the university. He said, for example, that many students do not know that there is such a thing as a Saferide committee, to which they should take complaints or ideas. Ideally, Kelch said, students would automatically think of approaching

Lowell and Kelch agreed that the most important issue is preserving the culture and values like autonomy that make MIT MIT. Lowell illustrated the importance of this point by discussing her role in negotiating the current rooftop punishment policy. Originally the administration wanted to impose \$500 fines, but Lowell proposed a policy that would replace fines for the first two offenses with community service requirements. "I've gotten more positive feedback on this than anything I've done," she said.

Dining was another issue that Lowell and Kelch chose as being important to the MIT student com-

"Tve gotten more positive feedback on this than anything I've done." —Jessica H. Lowell, Commenting on the Rooftop Policy

munity. Kelch said that as he was collecting signatures for his candidacy petition, many students asked him about dining before they would agree to sign his petition.

Lowell recalled that earlier in the year there was rumor that meal plans would be made mandatory for all students. She said upon hearing this from friends, "I tracked [the rumors] down and got" Dean for Student Life Larry G. Benedict "to squash them.'

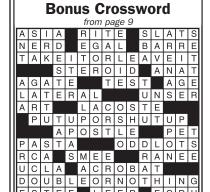
Like many of the other candidates, Kelch and Lowell stated the need to increase communication between the UA and students. How do they intend to do this? Lowell said as East Campus senator, she sent her constituents a detailed summary of UA meetings, and that whenever she interviewed someone in the administration she would do the same, so that students would always be informed.

Kelch, a current senator for the fraternities, said that after each Senate meeting, he e-mails fraternity presidents, and requests that they orward it to the rest of the frate nity members. "It's about making the presidents understand this is important," he said.

When asked why the UA Web site has not been updated regularly, Lowell said "the webmaster's been pretty hosed, but he's made a lot of progress on the new design." Lowell and Kelch said that the problem

Solution to

Candidates, Page 13





WHO TO NOMINATE:

- → students
- → student groups
- → faculty and staff
- → MIT community members
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David Rush -SK Late Night Best of Show

John Gardner -Hottest 3 ball juggler @ MIT

Eric and Matthew -Twins from Kentucky...

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March 14, 2006 THE TECH Page 13

Candidates Suggest Ways to Improve Communication

Candidates, from Page 12

with implementing a paid webmaster position would be that it would cut into Finboard funding for student groups.

Reflecting on her past year as UA vice president, Lowell said, "Any year to any extent is going to be a mixed bag." "There are some things that take more than a year to implement," she said.

She said that one of the reasons

The UA needs to be fiscally responsible, and make sure groups do not overspend ...

—Dwight Chambers

she picked Kelch as her running mate is because his ability complements hers. At one point she characterized their ticket as a combination of "Steve's [Kelch's] talents and my experience." She said of her running mate, "I think Steve will be a good enforcer, getting people to do what they have to do."

Kelch said he'll know he's done a good job "When I stop getting the question: what does the UA do?"

Chambers and Cabral

UA president candidate Chambers said he and Cabral make a strong pair, because they are "different and complementary people." Chambers said Cabral is "incredibly passionate" and will "latch onto an issue and work to accomplish it," while he tends to sit and think quietly.

Chambers said the UA needed to address budget issues and housing costs. Since MIT is working to make dormitories self-sufficient through rents, he said that he is concerned with ensuring that students can live in a dormitory they like, without being influenced by the cost. Reducing operating costs of dormitories would be important, he said.

In terms of changes that the average MIT student would notice a few months down the road, Chambers said he would like to improve the dining situation in the Student Center, namely the Lobdell food court, since changes in food vendors have caused it to lose popularity as a student meeting place. Also, Chambers stressed the importance

of keeping 5 to 7 p.m. on weekdays free of makeup exams and extra laboratory time, because "MIT is a difficult place" and students need that time to pursue activities such as athletics, without academics getting in the way.

Within the UA, Chambers said his ticket would like to "make the UA a legitimate body," refocus the committees, and run meetings efficiently, so that students would be more willing to get involved.

Additionally, the UA needs to be fiscally responsible, and make sure groups do not overspend, with the mentality that money comes from a bottomless pit. Chambers said this could be assured by having the UA follow more closely during groups' budgetary processes, and make sure that they adhere to their budgets.

The Chambers-Cabral ticket is different from the other two, Chambers said, because it is realistic and makes promises that can be kept. "I really feel a strong difference emerged in the debate" last week, he said.

Chambers said if his ticket were elected, he would gauge its performance and shortcomings by looking at concerns next year's candidates raise.

Another initiative their ticket believes in, Chambers said, is making sure non-resident fraternity members are not paying twice for dining because their dormitory has mandatory dining and their fraternity might also have meal plans. He accepted that freshmen would probably remain housed on campus at least in the near future, and said a compromise for this situation would be important.

To improve communication, Chambers said they would take a pragmatic approach by first identi-

Chambers-Cabral team suggests holding Undergraduate Association meetings in dormitories to increase participation.

fying the "barrier to student participation." He said part of the problem is location, as the fourth floor of the Student Center, the current setting of meetings, is not ideal. "[Cabral] and I are committed to taking the UA show on the road," he said.



DAVID TEMPLETON—THE TEC

Dwight M. Chambers '07 is running with Victor C. Cabral '07 as one of the three Undergraduate Association P/VP tickets.



ERIC SCHMIEDL

Jessica H. Lowell '07 (right) and Steven M. Kelch '08 (left) discuss their platform for Undergraduate Association President and Vice President yesterday.





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Page 14 THE TECH March 14, 2006

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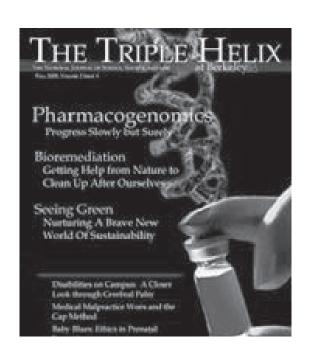
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March 14, 2006 THE TECH Page 15

Programs Broadened Nationwide

Minority Aid, from Page 11

and other programs for minorities was "at the top of our agenda."

Travis Reindl, director of state policy analysis at the American Association of State Colleges and Universities, said hundreds, if not thousands, of scholarship and fellowship programs historically used race as a criterion. Reindl estimated that as many as half of the four-year colleges in the United States had reviewed or modified such programs.

Neither the Justice Department nor Education Department, nor organizations on all sides of the discussions over affirmative action, have gathered statistics tracking the trend. In January, The Chronicle of Higher

Solution to Sudoku

. , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,											
7	4	2	8	9	6	1	3	5			
6	3	1	4	2	5	8	9	7			
9	8	5	1	7	3	2	4	6			
5	9	7	2	8	4	3	6	1			
2	1	8	6	3	9	7	5	4			
4	6	3	7	5	1	9	8	2			
3	2	4	9	6	7	5	1	8			
8	5	6	3	1	2	4	7	9			
1	7	9	5	4	8	6	2	3			

Solution to Crossword from page 9

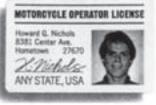
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Education named more than 12 institutions that had made the changes.

Clegg said that since 2003 his center had sent 200 challenges to colleges and universities over race-based scholarships and other programs, warning of legal action if changes were not made. He said more than 150 institutions had broadened their programs in response.

The two Supreme Court affirmative action decisions that are worrying the institutions involved the University of Michigan. In Grutter v. Bollinger, the court upheld the use of race in admissions decisions at the law school. It found that there had been a "highly individualized, holistic review of each applicant's file" in which race could be properly considered.

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Please send nominating letters (by email or campus mail) by Friday March 17, 2006 to: Susan Cohen, Director, Council for the Arts at MIT- E15-205 cohen@media.mit.edu

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Page 16 THE TECH March 12, 2006

SPORTS

MIT Men's Volleyball Defeats Johnson & Wales 3-1

By Mindy Brauer

ASST. DIRECTOR OF SPORTS INFORMATION

With an Institute record of 77 kills, the MIT Men's Volleyball team defeated Johnson & Wales University, 30-23, 30-23, 29-31, 30-27, in a NECVA New England division match Saturday. Praveen Pamidimukkala '08 paced the Engineers (18-8, 7-1 NECVA) with 21 kills, 12 digs, five blocks, two assists, and one ace.

After trading points to open the match, MIT scored three in a row for an 8-5 lead. Johnson and Wales tied the contest at nine, but a serving error by the Wildcats shifted the momentum in favor of the Engineers, who extended their advantage to four. Although Johnson & Wales cut the deficit to two (18-16), Tech controlled the rest of the game and won 30-23.

In the second game, Johnson & Wales led at 5-3, but behind Pamidimukkala's serves, MIT went up 7-5 and maintained an advantage for the rest of the game. The Wildcats stayed close until a four-point run brought the Engineers' lead to seven (22-15), a margin they held onto for another 30-23 win.

In the third game, Johnson & Wales started with four unanswered points. Facing a 10-6 deficit, Tech out-scored Wildcats 8-1 for a 14-11 advantage, but Johnson & Wales regained the lead on a four-point spree. The scoring see-sawed with the Engineers eventually pushing ahead, 29-25, but MIT couldn't finish the game, and the Wildcats rattled off six straight to claim a 29-31 win.

The last game featured three time-outs as the Wildcats tried to prolong the match and the Engineers tried to get the job done. MIT maintained a small lead for the

majority of the game until Johnson & Wales caught up at 24. The Engineers continued to attack and found themselves ahead 29-25. Wildcats

drew within two, but Engineers took the match as a dig by Johnson & Wales sailed out of bounds.

Vales sailed out of bounds.

Jordan X. Wan '06 recorded his

third double-double of the season with 15 digs and an Institute-record 67 assists in a four-game match, while tallying four kills. Kenneth K. Rosche '08 contributed a career-high 19 kills and a .432 hitting percentage to the Engineers, and Thomas S. Pollom '09 had a career-high 15 kills.

Irish Association of MIT presents

St. Patrick's Week Events

March 15th:

MIT-Harvard Seminar

Ambassador Richard Egan, US Ambassador to Ireland (2001-2003) Founder of EMC Corporation, 5:00-6:30 pm, Room 4-237

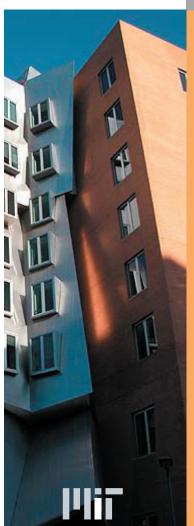
> March 16th: Seamus Brennan, T.D. Minister for Family and Social Affairs 1:00-2:00 pm, W20 Chimneys, 3rd floor, Student Centre

> > March 17th: Traditional Irish music session 11:00-12:30, W20 Room 491, Student Center



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Photo: Patsy Sampson